



The Mercury-Manganese star Phi Her

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Phi Her was a single lined spectroscopic binary. The primary is an HgMn star with extreme enhancements and depletions in many elements. Knowledge of the secondary spectral type is required to remove the effect of the secondary from the primary star's spectrum. Optical Interferometry with the Navy Prototype Optical Interferometer (NPOI) conclusively detected the secondary with a magnitude difference of 2.57 at 550 nm, predicting a spectral type of A8V. This was confirmed spectroscopically at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory.

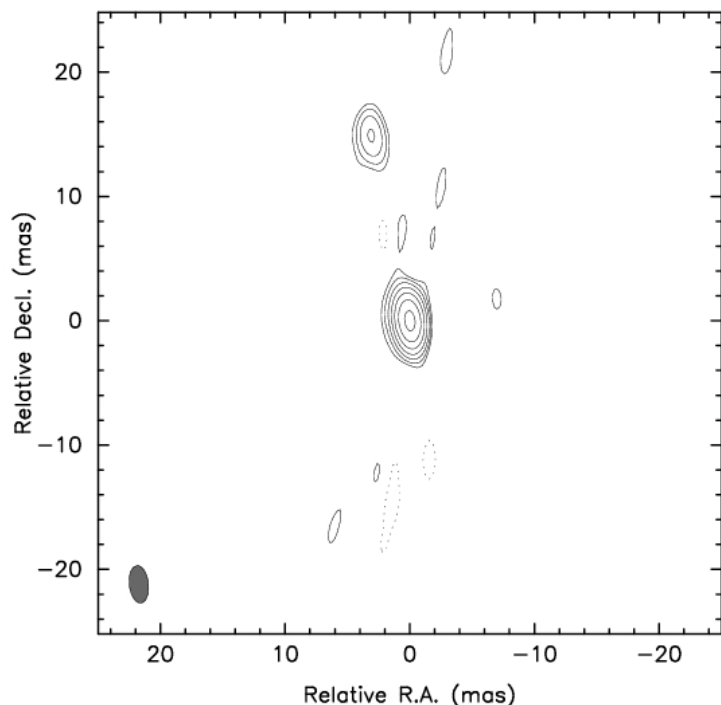
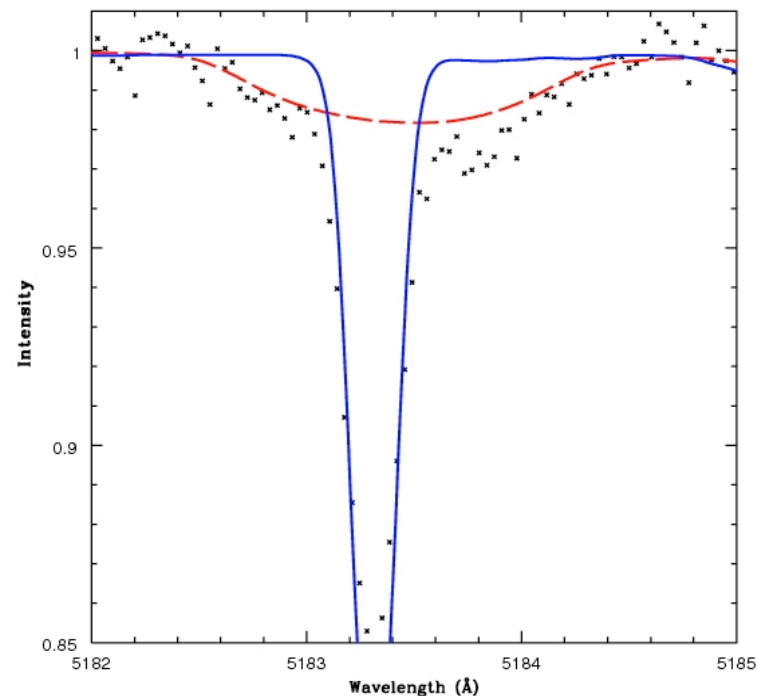


Image of Phi Her made from three 30 second scans with the NPOI on 2005 May 24 which showcases the NPOI's snap-shot imaging capability.



Spectrum of Phi Her (DAO 1.22M) showing the primary (blue) and secondary (red) contributions. The precise fluxratio provided by the NPOI was essential in this analysis.